UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1995/76
25 January 1995
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 25 JANUARY 1995 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF BURUNDI TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

From sources which corroborate each other I have been told of possible decisions taken by some of Burundi's foreign partners, suggesting threats of a military embargo against Burundi and other equally questionable measures in the belief that they are putting forward a cure-all solution to resolve Burundi's political problems.

We are seeing a series of statements and resolutions which no doubt are the result of a campaign of indoctrination waged by certain extremist circles, both in Burundi and abroad, which are known for their hostility to the Convention of Government signed between the political partners of Burundi on 10 September 1994. Any careful observer will have noted that relative stability and a delicate balance have prevailed in Burundi since that Convention took effect. Of course, problems of insecurity persist. Armed bands are attacking innocent civilian populations. The Government is endeavouring to control them. The measures adopted recently, including the establishment of a curfew at Bujumbura, have led to a relative lull in the capital.

Moreover, as noted by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General at Bujumbura in his communiqué of 20 January 1995, Burundi's problems are very sensitive and highly complex and can only be properly treated in a global manner, assuming that the international community's objective in Burundi is to promote peace, security and development.

Consequently, the Government of Burundi firmly denounces these manoeuvres which are designed to sabotage the fragile work of national reconciliation which is under way and affirms that it has never made any international request for an embargo or military intervention against Burundi, which is not at war with any country.

The Government of Burundi calls upon its foreign partners, especially the countries on the Security Council, not to allow themselves to be misled by such persons or organizations which are really acting out of destructive motives and to refer to the relevant bodies in Burundi which are responsible for giving the

Government's point of view on matters as important as peace and security in Burundi. It is important to avoid taking anachronistic action which might slow down the political progress made so far and risk poisoning an already precarious situation.

The Government of Burundi once again stresses the urgent need to avoid taking fixed positions on delicate matters in Burundi at the very time when the political parties and civil society have agreed to hold a national debate, in all transparency, which will begin soon.

Counting on the usual understanding of the members of the Security Council, I should be grateful if you would have this communication circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Melchiade BUKURU
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Permanent Mission of Burundi
to the United Nations